

REMARKS

Applicant thanks the Examiner for considering the references cited with the Information Disclosure Statement filed on November 7, 2001.

Applicant also thanks the Examiner for acknowledging the claim for priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119, and receipt of a certified copy of the priority document.

Claim Rejections

Claims 1-12, 13/8-13/10, 13/12, 14/8-14/10, 14/12, 15/1-15/5 and 15/8-15/12 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph as allegedly being indefinite. The Examiner alleges that various claims either recite a method without positive steps for its practice, or that the claims lack sufficient antecedent basis for various phrased.

Applicant submits that these claims have been amended to recite appropriate method steps and to provide antecedent basis as required. Applicant respectfully requests that the § 112 rejections of these claims be withdrawn.

Claims 15/1-15/5 and 15/8-15/12 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 101 as claiming non-functional descriptive material in a storing medium. Applicant has amended the claims to recite "a computer-readable medium," as suggested by the Examiner. Applicant submits that the above amendments provide positive steps to practice the method embodied in the computer-readable medium and, therefore, also overcome the § 101 rejections. Applicant respectfully request that the § 101 rejections be withdrawn.

As the Examiner has not alleged any rejections based on prior art grounds, Applicant respectfully submits that claims 1-15 are allowable.

Allowable Subject Matter

Applicant thanks the Examiner for the indication that claims 8 and 10-12 would be allowable if amended to overcome the § 112, second paragraph, rejections set forth above.

Applicant thanks the Examiner for the indication that claims 9, 13, 14 and 15/8-15/12 would be allowable if amended to overcome the § 112, second paragraph, rejections set forth above, and rewritten to include the limitations of the base claims and any intervening claims.

Applicant has amended claims 9, 13, 14 and 15/8-15/12 to overcome the § 112 rejections, as noted above. Also as noted above, since the Examiner has not alleged any rejections based on prior art grounds, Applicant respectfully submits that these claims are allowable.

Conclusion

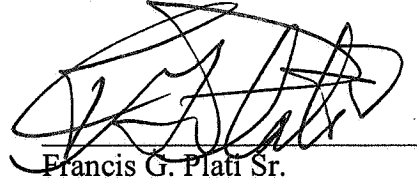
In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

Amendment Under 37 C.F.R. §1.111
U.S. Appl. No. 09/986,015

Atty. Docket No. Q67046

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Francis G. Plati Sr.", written over a horizontal line.

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